

Public Law 99-325
99th Congress

An Act

To require the Architect of the Capitol to place a plaque at the original site of Providence Hospital.

May 28, 1986
[H.R. 4382]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Providence Hospital Commemorative Plaque Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to commemorate Providence Hospital for providing 125 years of service to the District of Columbia by authorizing the placement of a plaque at the original site of the Hospital.

SEC. 3. SPECIFICATIONS FOR AND INSTALLATION OF PLAQUE.

(a) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to acquire by purchase or donation a plaque that—

- (1) is 36 inches in width and 24 inches in height;
- (2) displays on the left one-third of the plaque a bas-relief of Providence Hospital as it existed in 1866; and
- (3) displays on the right two-thirds of the plaque the following language in caslon typeface:

"ORIGINAL SITE OF PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL

"Providence Hospital was located on this site during the years 1861 through 1956. Founded in 1861 by the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul from Emmitsburg, Maryland, the hospital was chartered by an Act of Congress in 1864.

"During the Civil War, while other hospitals in Washington, D.C., were filled with war casualties, Providence Hospital had the special mission of providing care primarily to the civilian population. Originally located in a private home, the hospital moved in 1866 to the more permanent quarters illustrated on this plaque.

"On this site, Providence Hospital opened the area's first surgical amphitheater in 1882, inaugurated the first social service department in 1894, and opened the first contagious ward in 1898.

"Providence Hospital moved to its present location at 12th and Varnum Streets, NE, in 1956."

(b) MOUNTING OF PLAQUE.—The plaque described in subsection (a) shall be mounted on a pedestal to be constructed according to such specifications as the Architect of the Capitol determines are appropriate for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(c) INSTALLATION.—Such plaque and pedestal shall be installed by the Architect of the Capitol at a location on the original site of Providence Hospital that is as near as practicable to the location of

Providence
Hospital
Commemorative
Plaque Act.
District of
Columbia.

the main entrance of such hospital as it existed in 1866. If such location is required for other purposes by the Congress, the Architect of the Capitol may place such plaque on or near any new building erected on such site.

(d) **MAINTENANCE.**—The Architect of the Capitol shall maintain the plaque and pedestal installed under this section as a part of the United States Capitol Grounds.

SEC. 4. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.

(a) **AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Architect of the Capitol is authorized to accept and administer on behalf of the Congress gifts and bequests of money for the purpose of acquisition, preparation, and installation of the plaque and pedestal described in section 3.

(b) **TREATMENT OF GIFTS FOR TAX PURPOSES.**—For the purpose of Federal income, estate, and gift taxes, any gift or bequest accepted by the Architect of the Capitol under this Act shall be deemed to be a gift or bequest to or for the benefit of the United States.

(c) **OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.**—The Architect of the Capitol is authorized to incur all obligations and to make all expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5).

(d) **ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCOUNT.**—All gifts and bequests of money received for the purposes of this Act shall be deposited by the Architect of the Capitol in a special account established by the Secretary of the Treasury and shall be subject to immediate disbursement as needed by the Architect in order to carry out this Act.

(e) **REPORT.**—The Architect of the Capitol shall submit to the Congress a final report of the money received and expended by him in carrying out this Act.

SEC. 5. LIMITATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The United States may not pay any expense of the acquisition, preparation, and mounting of the plaque or the construction of the pedestal under this Act.

(b) **DONATION OF FUNDS.**—The Architect of the Capitol shall carry out this Act only if sufficient funds are donated for such purpose.

Approved May 28, 1986.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 4382:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):

May 13, considered and passed House.

May 14, considered and passed Senate.